

Divine Musical Evening with Aishwarya Vidhya Raghunath

Carnatic Vocal Concert (March 17, 2018)

A Review by Lata Suresh

Aishwarya Vidhya Raghunath's concert set the stage for another successful year of music and dance for Sruti. Her main concert during the Thyagaraja Aradhana stood out for its musical purity and classicism. Aishwarya began the concert with a scintillating "Tulasi dhala" in MAYamAlavagaulai. The neraval and swaram for "sarasiruha punnAgA" were apt and crisp. It was a beautiful prelude to a divine musical afternoon that was to unfold.

Next, Aishwarya explored the rAgA MukhAri which emanated its bright and subtle shades. The kriti, kArubAru sEyuvAru galarE was pristine and the kalpanA swaram was exotic with fitting patterns that brought out the essence of the rAgA. Nijamarmamulanu in UmAbaranam and SarasAmadhAna in Kapinarayaneer that were embedded between the main numbers were impressive. The center-piece for the afternoon was a classy SankarAbaranam essay.



L to R: KVS Vinay, Aishwarya Vidya Raghunath, Mallika Dinakar, Delhi Sairam

The subsequent rendition of Manasu swAdeenamai, created a lasting impression. She ultimately brought the curtain down with a beautiful Emani Veginthune in Huseni and TavathA sOham in PunnAgavarAli. K.V.S. Vinay on the violin provided adequate support and Delhi Sairam on the mridangam played exceptionally well. Sairam played intuitively, resonating well with Aishwarya's singing.

I believe, all of us who were in the auditorium would agree that we are eagerly looking forward to Aishwarya's return to Sruti for a full-featured concert in the near future.

Lata Suresh is a popular carnatic music teacher and has been a consistent Sruti sponsor and supporter. She lives with her family at Newtown Square.